

IN THE CLAIMS

1-9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) A method of screening compounds to identify potential anti-cancer agents, comprising:

contacting a test compound with each of two isogenic mammalian cell lines, wherein the first cell line is homozygous securin-defective and the second cell line is securin-proficient; and
identifying as a potential anti-cancer agent a determining if the test compound which
preferentially inhibits growth of the first cell line relative to the second cell line.

11. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the test compound is identified as a potential anti-cancer agent if it inhibits determined to inhibit growth of the first cell line at least 2-fold more than the second cell line.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the test compound is identified as a potential anti-cancer agent if it inhibits determined to inhibit growth of the first cell line at least 5-fold more than the second cell line.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the test compound is identified as a potential anti-cancer agent if it inhibits determined to inhibit growth of the first cell line at least 10-fold more than the second cell line.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the test compound is identified as a potential anti-cancer agent if it inhibits determined to inhibit growth of the first cell line at least 20-fold more than the second cell line.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 wherein the test compound is identified as a potential anti-cancer agent if it inhibits ~~determined to inhibit~~ growth of the first cell line at least 50-fold more than the second cell line.

16. (original) The method of claim 10 wherein the cell lines are in culture when contacted with the test compounds.

17. (original) The method of claim 10 wherein the cell lines are in xenografts when contacted with the test compound.

18. (original) The method of claim 10 wherein the test compound preferentially kills the first cell line relative to the second cell line.

19-22. (canceled)

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the two isogenic cells lines are human cell lines.